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Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) Method for producing a ceramic fiber (22) with a metal coating, wherein (24) ~~a reinforcing fiber (20), characterized in that~~ the metal coating (24) on the ceramic fiber (22) is converted to an exterior shape having a polygonal cross section which permits an arrangement of reinforcing fibers (20) side-by-side and above one another without any cavities.

2. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the polygonal exterior shape is stamped on the metal coating (24) by cold rolling ~~(10, 12, 30 to 40).~~

3. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~or 2,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ the polygonal exterior shape is designed to have a hexagonal cross section.

4. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein any ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the ceramic fiber (22) is first provided with a metal coating (24) and then the polygonal exterior shape is formed stamped.

5. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 4, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the metal coating (24) has an essentially constant thickness over the circumference before forming ~~stamping~~ the shape.

6. (currently amended) Method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein characterized in that the metal coating (24) is applied to the ceramic fiber (22) by a PVD (physical vapor deposition) process or by rolling a metal wire onto the ~~red-hot~~ ceramic fiber when the fiber is hot (22) under a protective gas atmosphere.

7. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ Ti64 titanium, in particular Ti64 is used as the metal coating (24).

8. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the ceramic fibers (22) ~~comprise essentially~~ include the elements silicon (Si), carbon (C), boron (B), oxygen (O), aluminum (Al) and/or nitrogen (N).

9. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the reinforcing fiber (20) is applied to a base part for form a used for the production of metal-matrix components (26) (MMCs).

10. (currently amended) Method for producing a semifinished product with a plurality of reinforcing fibers (20) produced by a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the ceramic fibers are (22) is wound onto a base part (26) without any cavities.

11. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the base part (26) has grooves (28) in its surface into which the ceramic fibers (22) are introduced.

12. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein ~~or 11, characterized in that~~ after winding the reinforcing fibers (20) onto the base part (26) a hot isostatic pressing method is performed.

13. (currently amended) Method as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claims 10, wherein ~~through 12, characterized in that~~ multiple layers of reinforcing fibers (20) arranged side by side are applied to the base part (26).

14. (currently amended) Method as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claims 10, wherein ~~through 13, characterized in that~~ a capping part is shrunk onto the free ends of the wound ~~coiled~~ base part (26).

15. (currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 10, wherein ~~any one of Claims 10 through 14, characterized in that~~ the base part (26) is designed as a rotationally symmetrical body.